



EVERETT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

"INVEST NOW FOR THEIR FUTURE"

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Attn: Nancy Bernard
PO Box 47990
Olympia, WA 98504-7990

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WA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Everett Christian School
Matt Kamps, Principal
2221 Cedar St.
Everett, WA 98201

September 4, 2008

Dear Nancy,

I am writing in regards to the proposed rules for School Environmental Health and Safety. I am unable to attend the hearing in Olympia on September 10, so please accept my comments and concerns in writing.

Everett Christian School is a K-8 private religious school of about 80 children on average. We have been around since 1926. We greatly value our students' health and safety, and strive to make as many improvements as our budget allows. I agree that our students' health and safety is a very important issue, and one that has great effects on achievement and student well-being while at school.

I agree with many of the guidelines that are proposed, but the cost of these improvements could very well put us under. We are always raising the cost of tuition to match the cost of living increases, and if we raise tuition too much, parents will turn away, and we will have to close our doors. As stated in the Preliminary Small Business Economic Impact Statement, "the department assumes that private schools will meet the intent of these rules in the least costly manner... the department assumes that any additional costs incurred by private schools will be passed on to parents via increased tuition rates. Our tuition was raised by \$94 per student from last year. If we have to implement the changes that are required by this rule proposal, according to the figures on the Economic Impact Statement, we would have to raise tuition an additional \$297.18 per student for start up costs, and additional annual increases of \$113.03 for ongoing costs of operation and maintenance. This amounts to an initial tuition increase of over 7% the first year, and 3% per year for ongoing costs. With these types of increases in addition to our normal tuition increases, it is not feasible to implement these worthy health and environmental standards as they are written.

Please consider the impact these new rules will have on small private schools in Washington and find ways for us to make our schools safer and healthier that is more cost effective.

Thank you for hearing us and giving us the opportunity to voice the concerns of our school.

Sincerely,


Matt Kamps

Principal

Everett Christian School

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